

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed August 8, 2006 has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 10-20 are now pending in this application. Claims 10-20 stand rejected. Claims 10 and 14 have been amended. Claims 1-9 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for courtesies extended to the Applicants' representative during a telephone interview conducted October 27, 2006. During the interview, the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, rejection in the Office Action mailed August 8, 2006 was discussed. Specifically, the term "turbine ratemeter" recited in Claim 10 and the phrase "means to deliver a metered amount of water" recited in Claim 14 were discussed.

Applicants acknowledge that the restriction requirement has been made final.

The objection to the drawings is respectfully traversed. Applicants respectfully submit that element reference number 192 is described throughout Applicants' specification, for example at paragraph [0027] and shown in Figure 3.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the drawing objections be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 10-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement is respectfully traversed.

Claims 10 and 14 have been amended to more clearly define the invention.

Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that Applicants' specification meets the requirements of Section 112, first paragraph. More specifically, Applicants respectfully submit that the specification, including the figures, enables one skilled in the art to make and/or use the invention as described in the present patent application. At paragraphs [0036] and [0037] of Applicants' specification, a turbine ratemeter 304 is described. More

specifically, paragraph [0037] describes that a “turbine ratemeter 304 generates a square wave signal that is supplied to controller 300 ... during a fill operation, controller 300 opens valve 302, and receives a plurality of square waves (i.e., pulses) from ratemeter 304 representative of a quantity of water flow therethrough. When the number of received pulses reaches a predetermined number, controller 300 closes valve 302 to stop water flow through ratemeter 304 and valve 302.” Turbine ratemeter 304, as described in the specification, functions as a square wave generator. The MODERN DICTIONARY OF ELECTRONICS, 7th edition, page 786, defines a waveform generator as “a computer circuit driven by pulses from the master clock. It operates in conjunction with the operation decoder to generate timed pulses needed by other machine circuits to perform the various operations.” Consequently, Applicants respectfully submit that additional technical description is not necessary to enable the specification.

Accordingly, for at least the reasons set forth above, Claims 10 and 14 are submitted to comply with the enablement requirement of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Claims 11-13 and Claims 15-20 depend from independent Claims 10 and 20, respectively. When the recitations of Claims 11-13 are considered in combination with the recitations of Claim 10, and the recitations of Claims 15-20 are considered in combination with Claim 14, Applicants submit that dependent Claims 11-13 and 15-20 likewise comply with the enablement requirement.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully request that the Section 112, first paragraph, rejection of Claims 10-20 be withdrawn.

Express Mail No.: EV 918277346 US

9D-DW-25158
PATENT

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Eric T. Krischke
Registration No. 42,769
ARMSTRONG TEASDALE LLP
One Metropolitan Square, Suite 2600
St. Louis, Missouri 63102-2740
(314) 621-5070